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SUTTER CITY MEN SENTENCED TO 9 MONTHS FOR THREATENING FORCE UPON AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS TO PREVENT THE STUDENTS FROM ATTENDING A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott, Sutter County Sheriff James Denny, and FBI Special Agent in Charge Drew Parenti announced today that JARED ORESTE GIAMPAOLI, 20, and STEVEN FOSTER LITTLE, 19, of Sutter, California, were sentenced today to 9 months federal incarceration by U.S. Magistrate Judge Peter A. Nowinski for using threats of force to willfully intimidate and interfere with the rights of African-American public school students to attend school, in violation of Section 245 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

The cases are the product of extensive investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Sutter County Sheriff's Department, and the Sutter County Sheriff's School Resource Officer Program.

Sutter County Sheriff Denny stated, "We are very satisfied with the quality of the investigation and the assistance of the federal government. The Sutter County Sheriff's Department believes today's sentencing is a positive outcome and reaffirms that these types of crimes will not be tolerated."

"The acts of these two young men truly shock the conscience. There is hardly a more precious right than that of receiving an education, and to be able to do so in an environment free of hatred and discrimination," said McGregor W. Scott, United States Attorney.

Drew S. Parenti, Special Agent in Charge, FBI, Sacramento said, "As this investigation and prosecution illustrated, the acts of intimidation to which these individuals plead guilty were not be tolerated by the federal government. Any such acts of intimidation will be vigorously investigated by this office."

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the cases, from late August 2004 through September 2004 GIAMPAOLI and FOSTER-LITTLE, and their associates intimidated and threatened students at Butte View Continuation and High School by calling students of color "nigger" and challenging said students to fight. Due to the threats, intimidation, and harassment suffered by the two African-American students, the students did not continue attending the Butte View Continuation High School for the 2004-2005 school year. The defendants' illicit conduct culminated on September 11, 2004 when GIAMPAOLI and FOSTER-LITTLE painted a 20 foot square swastika and "white power" symbols at the only

entrance to Butte View High School as threats of force against the students and to intimidate them from attending the high school.

Judge Nowinski sentenced each of the defendants to 9 months federal incarceration, to be followed by one year of supervised release. While on supervised release, the defendants will be subject to search to determine if they have reverted to criminal interference of federally-protected rights. The defendants were not taken into custody today, but instead were allowed to self surrender for execution of the 9 month period of incarceration.

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